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Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum**

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** The information contained in the addendum was received after the submission of the main report.

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II. Replies received from Member States

Cuba

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Cuba has stated repeatedly that all terrorist acts and actions affect the life, health, property and safety of innocent people, violate the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, jeopardize the functioning and stability of national institutions, cause serious damage to the production infrastructure and economic activity of States and further destabilize the international situation by creating new hotbeds of tension and, on occasion, triggering international conflicts.

Cuba therefore reiterates its position of principle with regard to international terrorism and condemns all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed and irrespective of the motives, and condemns outright all acts or actions, irrespective of their instigators or perpetrators, intended to encourage, support, finance or cover up any terrorist act, method or practice.

For more than forty-five years, Cuba has been a victim of State terrorism aimed at destroying the political and social order freely chosen by the Cuban people in the full exercise of their right to self-determination. As part of those attempts, the territory of the United States of America has been constantly and systematically used to finance and organize terrorist acts against Cuba and to train the perpetrators of those acts.

For its part, Cuba does not possess, nor has it the intention of possessing, weapons of mass destruction, nor is such possession an element of our national defence strategy. Cuba has an effective, predictable and reliable system for the national implementation of its international obligations deriving from its status as a State Party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), and the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco). Pursuant to these commitments, Cuba is a member of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL).

It is worth noting that Cuba is a party to the 13 existing international conventions and protocols on terrorism. In that regard, on 17 June 2009, Cuba became the 54th State Party to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 13 April 2005.

Accession to that Convention was a sovereign decision reflecting Cuba's commitment to counter-terrorism and clearly demonstrating our country's commitment to the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted in September 2006.

Participation in those international agencies and treaties ensures the existence in Cuba of a package of national regulations, laws and standards which, together with the relevant bodies, allow for compliance with Cuba's international

commitments and give effect to the sovereign decision of the Cuban people to strive resolutely for the total elimination of all weapons of mass destruction.

On several occasions, the Government of the Republic of Cuba has made use of public forums to provide information about the existence of that legislation and of the relevant national bodies. Attention is drawn in this connection to the informational documents submitted by Cuba within the framework of the Biological and Chemical Weapons Conventions, or the reports required pursuant to Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004), all of which can be easily accessed via the website of the United Nations.

However, Cuba once again denounces the placement, against the will of the Cuban people and Government, of a United States naval base on the Cuban territory of Guantánamo, over which portion of its national territory the Cuban State does not exercise the jurisdiction pertaining to it. Cuba does not know whether the United States has installed, possesses, maintains or intends to install nuclear materials, including weapons, in that illegally occupied territory. Cuba therefore assumes no responsibility with regard to that territory for the purposes of the international conventions.

Humanity has witnessed the terror that can be caused by nuclear weapons, which today are much more powerful than the atomic bombs dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the Government of the United States of America. The use of this as well as of other types of weapons of mass destruction in acts of terrorism would increase the gravity of such actions, by reason of their devastating effect.

The Governments of the United States of America and of other nuclear powers are opposed to immediate negotiations on the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Cuba is ready to begin such negotiations immediately and has made its position known both in its national capacity and as a party to declarations and documents issued by the Non-Aligned Movement or, in the context of the Conference on Disarmament, the Group of 21.

Cuba insists on the need for the total elimination of weapons of mass destruction as the sole truly effective way to avoid their use, considering that there can be no adequate or efficacious measures to prevent the occurrence of acts of terrorism with weapons of mass destruction as long as such weapons exist.

Cuba advocates international cooperation that is truly effective in preventing and combating all terrorist acts, based on a framework of international legitimacy and full respect for the principles of international law and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.